

November 7, 2002

U.S. Department of Transportation
Docket Management System
400 7th Street, SW, Room PL-400
Washington, DC 20591-0001

RE: Exemption No. 7499 for 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Silverhawk Aviation, Inc, holder of Air Carrier Certificate YQSA759U, currently operates under Exemption No. 7499, issued April 12, 2001. This exemption allows us to operate our aircraft under part 135 without a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed in the aircraft.

We believe our petition is in the public interest for both safety and economic reasons. In terms of safety, ground sensors, which are necessary for the enhanced operations of Mode S transponders, are not installed. Without these sensors, the Mode S transponder provides no more benefits to safety than advanced Mode C transponders. Therefore, granting this exemption will not reduce aviation safety.

The installation of Mode S transponders is a substantial financial burden due to the cost differences between the Mode S transponder and the Mode C transponder. Granting this exemption will provide economic relief for Silverhawk Aviation and the flying public that we serve.

We request that the FAA waive the publication of this request in the Federal Register. We feel that the delay for publication and the comment period would be detrimental to Silverhawk Aviation, Inc. and the flying public that we serve.

We hope that you will agree the conditions since the issuance of Exemption No. 7499 have not changed and you will grant another exemption of 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2) to Silverhawk Aviation, Inc., 1751 W. Kearney Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68524.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Ator
Chief Pilot
Silverhawk Aviation, Inc.